

Water Management Considerations/Strategies

Water Banking Workshop

July 2008

Topics

Goals & Objectives for Water Mgmt/Banking

Watershed Specific Considerations & Constraints

Water Management Strategies

- Level of Participation & Menu of Options
- Water Exchange (including banking)
- Constraints

General Water Management Objectives

- Facilitate transfers & promote market
- Address seasonality/timing of supply
- Respond to drought
- Reward conservation
- Source exchange
- Support mitigation
- Improve in-stream flows

Watershed Specific Goals

- Protect existing water rights for future uses
- Facilitate use of existing rights
- Establish a centralized resource center
- Facilitate a water market
- Streamline the existing transfer process
- Provide incentives to conserve

Considerations & Constraints

Hydrologic conditions & nature of existing rights

Existing infrastructure (e.g. conveyance, storage)

Economic/geographic characteristics

Willingness to participate

Water Management Concepts

Level of “Participation”

Water Information Clearinghouse



Water Market Facilitator



Water Exchange

Water Management Strategies

Options

- Exemptions to Relinquishment
- Creating a Board of Joint Control
- Regional Municipal Provider

Water Management Strategies

Options cont'd

- Facilitate a water market
- Use of State TWR as “Bank”
 - Permanent for mitigation credits for new water right appropriation
 - Temporary donation and future transfer for out-of-stream use

Water Exchange Concept

Create an exchange administered by a “water authority”

Services to include:

- information clearinghouse
- multiple listing service
- actively assist as “broker”
- administer programs (banking)

Water Exchange Program

Existing Constraints

- Statutory limitations
- Placing gw rights into trust
- Funding and governance
- Demonstrating the benefits

Water Exchange Program

Means to Address Barriers

- Pursue statutory amendments
- Coordinated Water System Planning
- Evaluate funding and governance
- Make it happen and show it can work

Add'l Info & Questions?

Ecology and West Water Research LLC, *Analysis of Water Banks in the Western States*, Ecology Publication 06-11-048 Dec 2004

Ecology, 2006, *Report to the Legislature: Water Banking in Washington*, Ecology Publication 04-11-030, Dec 2004

Ecology, 2007, *Guidance for Processing Trust Water Rights*, Guid-1220

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